

For Immediate Release

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HERSETH SANDLIN ANNOUNCES \$204,035 GRANT FOR SOUTH DAKOTA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Washington, DC {September 21, 2009}- Today, Rep. Herseth Sandlin announced \$204,035 in grant funding for the South Dakota Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SDCADVSA) from the United States Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women (OVW). Administered by the OVW, this funding will provide support to member rape crisis centers through funding, training and technical assistance, and public awareness.

"Sexual assault and domestic violence shatters lives and hurts communities," Rep. Herseth Sandlin said. "This grant funding assists the important work of the professionals at the South Dakota Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and its member organizations across the state in supporting victims and increasing awareness."

Headquartered in Pierre, the SDCADVSA provides direct support to more than 20 member battered women's shelters, rape crisis centers and other service providers in rural, urban and tribal communities across South Dakota.

The Grants to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions Programs, The Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP), created by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005, provides federal funding and assistance for victims of sexual assault. The purpose of SASP is to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance for adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault, family and household members of victims, and those collaterally affected by sexual assault.

On Monday, September 14th, 2009, the House of Representatives passed a resolution honoring the 15th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act being signed into law.

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